



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
800 BAY ROAD
P.O. BOX 778
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

October 4, 2006

Dear Wooddale Residents:

This letter serves as the fourth update on the status of the Wooddale Covered Bridge project. While this project continues to have its share of obstacles and issues, there has been a significant amount of progress since the last update.

First, on May 15, a public workshop was held at the Delaware National Country Club. DelDOT provided the public with displays showing the aesthetic features of the bridge and retaining walls that were chosen based on comments received at the previous public workshop held in November 2005. Public interest and feedback continue to remain positive.

The construction plans and details are nearing the final stages. As we continue to prepare our final bid documents, coordination with the Department of Natural Resources, Army Corps of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Office, and Mount Cuba Center is on-going. This project has brought about many interesting challenges including trying to balance the construction of the bridge and roadway with maintaining the historic and natural character of the area. This challenge remains our top priority as we move toward completing the project design.

We do have some exciting news to announce! There will be construction activities starting up in the near future. As discussed at the last public workshop, the Wilmington Western Railroad crossing on Foxhill Lane will undergo reconstruction in advance of the bridge contract. We have been notified by the contractor that this work will begin on or before October 24. Also, the utility relocation work for the bridge contract will begin in the near future. An exact date has not been established, but you will be notified in advance of the work. I apologize in advance for the inconveniences you may experience during these activities.

Although a lot of work still remains, we are pushing ahead and remain on schedule to complete the plan package by the end of November, which would allow construction to begin in the spring of 2007. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, please give us a call or send us an email at the contact information provided on the website (http://www.deldot.gov/static/projects/wooddale_bridge/index.shtml).

Sincerely,

Jiten Soneji, P.E.
Bridge Design Engineer

JKS:jhb

cc: Dennis O'Shea, Assistant Director, Design Support
Douglass Robb, Supervising Engineer, Bridge Design
Jason Hastings, Project Engineer, Bridge Design
Darrel Cole, Director, Public Relations
File